

LETTER TO THE NEOPHYTES AND REGULAR STUDENTS
Issued weekly for instruction in occult elements of self-enlightenment

Number 599

NORMALITY IS CO-OPERATION

Dear Aspirant:

In this current series of blue letters I have emphasized the fact that experience is complex or plural in its basic association with chance and choice or in its marked tendency to support free will, and one of the consequences of this plural universe and the complexity of the organisms capable of inhabiting it is the infinite potentiality of the present moment in any experience. Possibly the happier way of expressing this is to say as I have in some preceding letters that man lives in a large number of different presents from the key continuance of his total life span to each fleeting focus of reality or each least organic reaction in his succession of transient relations. Therefore man is many persons or a person in the frame of every present in which an aspect of personality is made real or part of the total person, and a philosophy of life to be effective must provide for the good of each subordinate or contributory person in order to give a genuine totality to the whole self. Obviously the greatest part of this well-being or particularly focalized good cannot have conscious attention or special direction and so must be dismissed to the good inherent in the particular existence or reality involved or to the common normality.

The seeker who wishes to be spiritual by being different might emulate the cynic Diogenes and carry his lantern in daylight and enter the theater at an exit when a performance is over rather than at its start and to sleep in a tub and perform ablutions in bed or follow the reputed practice of yoga in taking in food at the anus and ridding the digestive tract of waste material through the mouth, but when this symbolical or literal reversal of normality has been accomplished what of advantage has been achieved in dealing with any present actuality?

Yours in the fellowship of the spirit,

MARC EDMUND JONES

Stanwood, Washington 98292, October 14, 2019

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THE AFFIRMATIONS FOR THIS WEEK AND NEXT

Health: I shape my temple to divine desire.

Prosperity: I share the wealth of every other person.

Happiness: My heart receives the truth from every source.

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Number 600

THE COMMON NORMALITY

Dear Aspirant:

Perhaps the best representation of a common normality or the general well-being in which the lower semiautomatic functions will continue without interfering with the basic efforts of the social self is to be found in the familiar laws of material science such as gravitation or the invariable principles in chemical reaction. The growth of the human organism in the pattern of the species and in fulfillment of its own genius is the whole foundation of every unfoldment of higher personality or conscious individuality. Man is apical in his very constitution of consummatory functions on the basis of values combined in his foundation stability, and when some would-be initiate has great and spectacular debacle the reason is not that some supreme power will punish the deprecated morality but that it is impossible for any person to ask expression in an exalted present of invisible fellowship or to have identity as a master or great racial leader and at the time be focused in consciousness in lesser appetites of bondage or be involved in faithlessness to the common normality by which the group has being.

The seeker does not have to be impeccable in his conduct or unimpeachably blameless in his past or even his present since it is vital that he do not lose human status or freedom in choice or chance, but he must live the life of the race enough or be normal enough widely enough in experience to have the foundation for himself as a person or as the individual in whom the race reaches out beyond itself in the changing aspect of itself that is a potential for the better normality of itself. Obviously whatever becomes crucial in race improvement is a transient abnormality in the pioneer individuality, but the abnormal somehow justifies itself in some dramatization of a general normality.

Yours in the fellowship of the spirit,

MARC EDMUND JONES

Stanwood, Washington 98292, October 21, 2019

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THE AFFIRMATIONS FOR LAST WEEK AND THIS

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Prosperity: I share the wealth of every other person.

Happiness: My heart receives the truth from every source.

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Number 601

EXPERIENCE IS DEVIATION

Dear Aspirant:

Individuality is difference or is an identity resting on the continuation of real individual existence as a matter of continual expression or experience of difference, and to this extent the occultist's inclination to be different or queer on many grounds is good and to be encouraged. But the error in superficial explanations of higher truth is in the ordering of this emphasis of difference. Properly it is a dignification of deviation or contribution of genuine plussage to values that lifts common high points of realization to real heights and it is essential that the occultist be well grounded in many normal respects for the basic rapport with his fellows that will facilitate a raising of perception or creation of the heightened realization. The superficial notion of so much occultism that men are to be startled or shocked or tricked into their own self-betterment is the outworn technique of the witch doctor and his bizarre ritual. Men are best lifted to be more than they are through that which they are since then the process at base is a matter of being more of what they are already.

Occultism is not at root concerned with the continuation of fundamental differences creating identity since they are the normal source of all experience of selfhood. Experience really is deviation since all activity of the self below the levels of conscious awareness is not so much experience as the functioning of the organism in common normality or general species and racial being. Unless there are real deviate factors or immediate and vital differences breathing is not an experience, and by this same token the usual everyday functions of any individual existence are more an articulation of the group than of the given person himself. Man is what he does as the difference he is.

Yours in the fellowship of the spirit,

MARC EDMUND JONES

Stanwood, Washington 98292, October 28, 2019

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THE AFFIRMATIONS FOR THIS WEEK AND NEXT

Health: I perfect myself within the frame of highest expectation.
Prosperity: I am the master of my circumstances.
Happiness: My soul rejoices in the good that comes to others.

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Number 602

INDIVIDUALITY IS AN EXPERIENCE

Dear Aspirant:

The identity of self or entity with experience or realization of selfhood has been reaffirmed continually in these letters to an extent that may seem monotonous, but it is quite the most important of all truths in occult teaching. The aspirant is asked to be wholly normal in all practical details of life, and to add a plussage of normal self in which self becomes more normal to more others than ever is true in conventional physical relationship alone and all this is to an end that the race itself may live and speak in him, and that the other individualities thus linked with him may have greater normalities made evident to themselves in their own experience because of this linkage. But obviously this can occur only if an increasing common normality in the aspirant and in the initiate he becomes is not so broad that individuality or true identity is surrendered to total indistinction. In fact the more the common normality becomes focused in some all-time or ideal individuality the more it is essential that a focusing abnormality or apical phase of personality be accentuated. Unless an unusual queerness of some marked sort or other than the trivial and disgusting peccadillos of food or clothing or social conduct revealing the occult pretender distinguishes an initiate or master he is unable to continue to be. There then is no super individuality because there is nothing for it to experience as itself as discrete in common race livingness.

Individuality is an experience and hence it is that life has to be some species of an adventure for the seeker from the outset. He must enjoy the normality in which he is cradled naturally and in an unusual degree be able to be himself in that cradling and from it know how to reach out to his fellows in broader and higher fellowship.

Yours in the fellowship of the spirit,

MARC EDMUND JONES

Stanwood, Washington 98292, November 4, 2019

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THE AFFIRMATIONS FOR LAST WEEK AND THIS

Health: I perfect myself within the frame of highest expectation.
Prosperity: I am the master of my circumstances.
Happiness: My soul rejoices in the good that comes to others.